

01272.020604.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                             |   |                      |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------|
| In re Application of:       | ) |                      |
|                             | : | Examiner: B. Menberu |
| HIROMITSU NISHIKAWA, et al. | ) |                      |
|                             | : | Group Art Unit: 2625 |
| Application No.: 10/627,657 | ) |                      |
|                             | : |                      |
| Filed: July 28, 2003        | ) |                      |
|                             | : |                      |
| For: IMAGE PROCESSING       | ) |                      |
| METHOD AND IMAGE            | : |                      |
| PROCESSING APPARATUS        | ) | April 6, 2009        |

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination of the above-identified application, for which a Request for Continued Examination is being filed concurrently herewith, and in response to the final Office Action dated January 6, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF EFS-WEB TRANSMISSION  
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed electronically by  
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April 6, 2009  
(Date of Transmission)

John D. Magluyan, Reg. No. 56,867  
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

/John D. Magluyan /  
Signature

April 6, 2009  
Date of Signature